

The Fulton County News.

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Rhoda Truax.

Mrs. Rhoda Truax, of Belfast township, died Thursday morning, April 18, 1901, and was interred on Friday in the graveyard at the Dunkard church in the same township.

Mrs. Truax was a daughter of Evan Evans and his wife Sebina Hart Evans, and was born July 21, 1832; hence she was in her sixty-ninth year. The Evanses are of Revolutionary stock, Mrs. Truax's great-grandfather, Evan Evans, having emigrated from Wales and settled near Reading, Pa., in 1763. He was a soldier in the Revolutionary War, and died about 1810, leaving four sons and two daughters. One of the sons, Cadwallader Evans, settled at Clearville in Bedford county and was grandfather of Mrs. Truax.

On the 16th of June, 1859 she was married to Theodore Mellott. To them were born six children—Abigail, David, Harriet Jane, Jacob T., G. Johnson, a merchant at Gora, and Sebina, wife of Joseph E. Mellott. The four first named all died in early childhood.

Mr. Mellott dying, she was married October 21, 1880, to Jonas Truax who survives. She is also survived by two brothers, namely, David Evans of Belfast township, and Nathaniel H., of Thompson.

In early womanhood a cancer developed in her breast and for four years she was a great sufferer. Local physicians exhausted their skill, and abandoned it. She gave up to die. Some one told her that "Uncle Jake" Mellott who then lived up along Sideling Hill, could remove cancer by "words." Her friends persuaded her to send for Uncle Jake. She did so. Uncle Jake came, put a "spell" on the cancer in a way only known to himself and went home. In a short time, the cancer, which had eaten one side of her breast away, disappeared, her body healed and for forty years she felt no trace of the cancer. Some four or five years ago, however, it reappeared and gradually grew worse, finally ending her life.

Mrs. Truax was a most excellent christian woman; being not merely a hearer of the Word, but a doer, also. Generous and kind-hearted she was ever ready to give to those who were in need; and many are those who will hold her name in loving remembrance for the deeds of charity at her hands.

Laidig.

John Deavor left for Mt. Carroll, Illinois, on Monday.

James Cutchall is ill with pneumonia and grip.

Two more wires have been put on the western Union's line along the State Road, making ten in all.

John Martz has moved to Zack McIlheny's farm and W. M. Hann to the Crawford farm.

Ella Lake came home from Clearville last week.

Some of our schools closed last week and the rest will close this week.

Z. B. Barnett took a few days off this spring to attend sales. He thinks it does not pay to be a professional salesgoer.

Three of James Cutchall's family are sick with measles.

Some of our people have planted early potatoes.

McKibbin.

Mr. and Mrs. Anderson Mellott spent Sunday with the family of William Mellott.

Owing to the rain Sunday, Sunday School at Pleasant Grove was not very largely attended.

Mr. John M. Clevenger, of Hustontown, spent Saturday and Sunday with friends in this vicinity.

Dovie, little daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William Mellott, had the misfortune to fall and break her arm.

Mrs. B. F. Bedford is visiting her daughter, Mrs. John G. Mellott of Needmore.

Stabbed to Death.

While treating a raving maniac at the Dauvillestate insane asylum on Wednesday of last week, Dr. Ralph Erskine Johnston, one of the staff physicians, was stabbed and almost instantly killed by Pasquello Caprio, his patient. The weapon Caprio used was a piece of corset steel, ground to a point at both ends. Around one end was wrapped a bundle of rags which served as a handle.—Dr. Johnston had been a physician on the staff of the insane hospital for about five years. His father, J. Smith Johnston, is the only brother of the late Thomas N. Johnston of the Cove, and his mother, a sister of Archie W., and J. Walker Johnston also of the Cove. His father and mother are both living at New Wilmington, Pa.

Dr. Johnston was married on the 8th day of last January and for a bridal tour, visited the South Sea Islands spending some six or eight weeks there.

Saluvia.

Rev. and Mrs. Seifert spent a few days in this vicinity last week. They were getting their goods ready for removal to Burnt Cabins, this week.

Mrs. Anna Hann is suffering from a very serious injury to her foot, the result of stepping on a defective board in the back porch at her home Wednesday evening.

Mrs. Harry Spangler of Wells Tannery, was among those from a distance who attended the Daniels' sale Friday.

During the progress of the Daniels' sale two weeks ago some persons made an unsuccessful attempt to poison the watch dog at that place. Last Friday they repeated it with better results, and the same night made a raid on the granary, and secured ten bushels of wheat, 1 bu. timothy seed, and 75 lbs. of flour. John A. Hanman, had purchased the flour at the first sale, and had not removed it, consequently, he is the loser.

Ferdinand Decker, and Bert Hann, were in Hancock, last week on business.

Hon. D. H. Patterson, of Webster Mills, was in this vicinity Friday.

Sheriff Sheets, was in this vicinity on business Friday.

J. W. Dotson.

On Sunday evening, April 14, 1901, J. W. Dotson died at the age of about 60 years.

Mr. Dotson came from Bedford county about two years ago, and married the widow of the late George W. Pittman of Thompson township, and they resided on part of the old home place of the late Rev. Ezra Pittman.

Funeral on Tuesday morning. Interred at Antioch Christian church on Timber Ridge.

Rena Peck.

Rena Peck a bright little girl of six years of age died at the home of her mother, Mrs. Daniel Keefler in Thompson township last Saturday morning. The child had been in apparently good health until Saturday morning when she called to her mother to bring her a drink.

When the mother reached the child with the water, she noticed that the child was sick and in a very few minutes the little thing expired.

Interment at Zion on Sunday.

Truax.

Mounda Roxanna Truax, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Truax, of Belfast township, died April 11, 1901, aged 9 months and two days. Its death was the result of an attack of pneumonia.

"One less at home!
The charmed circle broken—a dear face
Missing day by day from its usual place,
But cleansed, saved, perfected by grace,
One more in Heaven!

"One less on earth!
The pain, the sorrow and its toll to share,
One less the pilgrim's daily cross to bear,
One more the crown of the blest to wear
At home in Heaven!"

Journey to Persia.

Last August, as many of the readers of the News will remember, Rev. Charles R. Pittman, of McConnellsburg, left his home, to go to Persia as a missionary under the auspices of the Board of Foreign Missions of the Presbyterian church. Before he left he succeeded in getting his promise that he would, as soon as convenient after reaching that far off land, send us a brief account of his journey.

A few days ago we received the manuscript; and this week it affords us much pleasure to give the first installment of it, and expect to give the remainder next week.

Permit us to suggest to you, boys and girls, that you get your geographicals, find them maps of Persia, examine it, and then read all you can about the country, its people, religion, history, &c.

If you follow these suggestions this article will lead to a fund of very interesting information. Ancient Persia was the home of Abraham, contained the Mount on which Noah's Ark rested after the flood, contained the city of Babylon, the scene of Belshazzar's feast, was the home of Daniel, &c., &c. Look it all up.



REV. CHARLES R. PITTMAN.

I will attempt to give you some account of my journey to Persia. But, first of all, I wish to remind you that the object of our travel was not sight-seeing; consequently, our journey was not arranged with that in view, nor did we follow the route that would afford the greatest opportunities for that purpose. Yet, travel is, in itself, a valuable education, and we used all the opportunities we could properly get, to see and to learn as much as we could. Also, it is well to keep in mind that our journey was a hasty one. We arrived at Tabriz, Persia, on the fortieth day after leaving America. Therefore, our impressions of the countries through which we passed, bear the defect of being "first impressions." Yet, "first impressions" formed on a hasty journey are not without value; for the very rapidity with which we passed from one country to another, made the contrast between them the more forcible, and gave us an opportunity for comparison that we would not otherwise have had.

I left McConnellsburg August 16, 1900, in the early back; and after an uneventful journey (except the usual experiences incident to travel in the United States), reached New York City that evening. On the following day the small party of missionaries for Persia met with some of the officers of the Presbyterian Board of Foreign Missions, in an upper-room for a prayer and farewell meeting. It was encouraging to hear those who had served one or more terms in Persia, say that they were ready and glad to return.

The next day, Saturday, was the day appointed for sailing and at 8:30 A. M., we arrived at Pier 39, at the foot of Houston Street, and found the "Steamship Mesaba" ready to start on her long journey. After taking a snapshot of the boat, we went on board; and promptly at nine o'clock, set sail for London. A crowd of friends of the passengers stood on the pier waving farewell as we

Michael Helman.

Last Thursday morning Michael Helman, a farmer living near McConnellsburg, went out to a field on his farm to give some directions about the plowing, and returned to the house about 8 o'clock. It was observed that as he was entering the kitchen, he seemed sick, and his daughters who were present assisted him to a lounge and sent for their brother who was in the field. He came to the house and immediately came to town for Dr. Dalbey who went at once but found that Mr. Helman had suffered paralysis, and while entirely conscious, was unable to utter a word. About noon he died. His funeral took place on Saturday and his remains were interred in the Reformed graveyard in this place.

Mr. Helman was an excellent citizen, and his death was a great shock to the community. He was a veteran of the Civil War, being a member of the 22d Pennsylvania Cavalry. He enlisted in February 1864 and was mustered out of service near Cumberland, Maryland, in October 1865.

He participated in more than twenty battles, among which was that of Cedar Creek, at which Sheridan made his famous ride, turned the boys in blue who were retreating, and gained a most signal victory over the Rebels.

He was an active member of King Post G. A. R., of this place, the members of which turned out in a body to pay their last sad respects to their dead comrade.

Mr. Helman was married March 1, 1871, to Miss Matilda Sowers, who with the following children survive him, namely, John, married and living just east of town; Bert, somewhere in the south; Maggie, wife of David Keefe; and Jessie, wife of Oliver Kewen, both of Mercersburg; Winifred, wife of Charles Tritle just east of town; Harvey, Mack, Bessie, Olive, Herbert, and Irvin at home.

Funeral services conducted by Reverend Smith and West.

Meeting of Presbytery.

The United Presbyterian Presbytery of Big Spring will meet in the United Presbyterian Church of this place on Tuesday April 23 at 9:30 a. m. and will continue its sessions for two days. The opening sermon will be preached by Rev. R. G. Pinkerton on Tuesday at 10 a. m. An interesting conference on "Systematic Bible Study" will be held at 3 p. m. and one at 9:30 p. m. on "Winning Souls." At 3 p. m. on Wednesday another conference will be continued on "Special Revival Services." Also one at 7:30 p. m. on "The State of Religion in the Congregations of the Presbytery." The public are cordially invited to attend these meetings.

Brush Creek.

Miss Gertrude Hoke, having completed a very successful term of school in the primary department at Akersville, returned to her home in McConnellsburg on Thursday. Miss Hoke's many friends were sorry to see her leave.

Mrs. J. E. Jackson was visiting friends in Bedford county from Friday till Monday.

Mrs. C. M. Hixon spent a couple of days visiting friends and relatives across the mountain recently.

The mountains around the Valley were well covered with snow on Sunday, but it only remained till the next day.

E. S. Walters finished his school at Buffalo the first of last week. It was also a good school. Elliott Akers and family expect to finish moving to Sideling Hill this week.

Pine-Myers.

Married at the Lutheran parsonage in this place on Wednesday, April 10, 1901, by Rev. A. G. Wolf, Mr. George E. Pine and Miss Annie M. Myers, both of Foltz.

A Souvenir.

Joseph L. Richards, of Ayr township, has a war souvenir that he prizes very much. It is a small piece of cedar taken from one of the posts that helped to form the "dead line" in Andersonville prison. Every school boy is familiar with the history of that foul pen, where thousands of Union prisoners were placed to starve and die—or be shot, if it suited the fancy of the guards. Mr. Richards' regiment was sent there at the close of the war to superintend the burial of the poor fellows whose lives had been sacrificed.

During the time of the existence of the prison, says Mr. Richards, 15,576 men died therein and were taken outside the stockade, and buried in trenches without even as much as a rough box to protect their bodies from contact with the earth.

At the close of the war the government had these bodies all taken up, and each reburied with as much care as it was possible to exercise at that time.

Many persons from the North were there to claim the remains of some dear friend; and where identification was possible the remains was put into a casket and shipped home.

The prison was circular, and enclosed a swamp. A stockade was made around the enclosure, by placing heavy pine logs four-foot in height above ground and as close together as they could be placed. Within three feet of the top of this stockade and on the outside, arms of wood were mortised in, and these supported by a brace. On these arms were laid board forming a platform entirely around the prison, on which guards patrolled. Four feet from the outer stockade was a stockade extending all around, 4 1/2 feet above ground. This was the "dead line." Any prisoner who touched that dead line was immediately shot by the guard who patrolled on the platform on top of the big stockade.

Among those of our acquaintances who were held there as prisoners, was the late J. Z. Over of the Fulton Republican. He used to say that he was starved so sore, that he couldn't make a respectable shadow, and only weighed about 80 pounds when he was released.

A Riddle.

By L. E. Cutler, Louisa, Va.

[We are indebted to Miss Mollie Seylar of Pittsburg for a clipping containing this riddle.—EDITOR.]

A great many years ago, a prominent merchant promised an old lady a prize, if, taking her subject from the Bible, she would compose a riddle he could not guess. She won the prize by the following:

Adam God made out of dust,
But thought it best to make me first,
So I was made before the man,
To answer God's most holy plan.
My body God did make complete,
But without arms or legs or feet,
My ways and acts he did control,
But to my body gave no soul.
A living being I became,
And Adam gave to me my name.
From his presence I then withdrew,
And more of Adam never knew.
I did my Maker's law obey,
Nor from it ever went astray.
Thousands of miles I go in fear,
But seldom on the earth appear,
For purpose wise which God did see,
He put a living soul in me,
A soul from me my God did claim,
And took from me my soul again,
For when from me that soul had fled,
I was the same as when first made,
And without hands or feet or soul,
I travel on from pole to pole,
I labor hard by day and night;
To fallen man I give great light,
Thousands of people young and old,
Will by my death, great light behold,
No right, nor wrong can I conceive,
The Scriptures I cannot believe;
Although my name therein is found,
They are to me an empty sound,
No fear of death doth trouble me,
Real happiness I ne'er shall see,
To heaven I shall never go;
Nor to the grave, nor hell below,
Now when these lines you slowly read,
Go search your Bible with all speed,
For that my name's recorded there,
I honestly to you declare.

Will some of our readers furnish the answer?

John Hess.

Another of Thompson township's oldest and most highly respected citizens has been called to quit the scenes of earth, in the person of Mr. John Hess. After an illness of several weeks, Mr. Hess died last Thursday night, April 11, 1901, aged 72 years 6 months and 8 days.

Mr. Hess was a son of the late Stillwell Hess and his wife Asenath Hart Hess, descendants of the earliest settlers in the county.

November 1, 1852 he was married to Miss Elizabeth Simpson, daughter of the late Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Simpson, of Thompson township, and to them were born ten children, all but one of whom, with the widow, survive, namely, Ephraim, in Missouri; Malinda, wife of George F. Mellott, of Ayr township; Marion, dead; Mary, in England; Jacob, in Washington; Abner, in St. Louis; Ella, wife of W. E. Pittman; Samuel, at home; Nettie, wife of Howard Zimmerman, in Thompson township, and John at home. One brother, William H., who has his home in the family of the deceased, and three sisters, Rhoda, Mary, and Rachel, married and living in the West survive him also.

While Mr. Hess led a quiet, unassuming life, there did live in any one whose character was more free from reproach. It never entered his mind to be anything else than honorable in all his dealings with his fellow men; and of him it could be truthfully said, "his word was as good as his bond."

His remains were interred in the graveyard at the Topoloway Baptist church beside those of his brothers, and sisters, parents and grandparents, on Sunday last. Funeral services conducted by his pastor Rev. C. L. Funk.

Flickerville.

Perhaps the editor of the News is not aware that there is a place near the head of Whips Cove by the above name; but there is, nevertheless. The town consists of two dwellings, one grocery, shoe-maker shop, and drop office—it should be a regular post office. A coach shop will go up in the near future, run by a man of wide experience in the business. Only a stone's throw of Whips Cove church, it is one of the most desirable places in the Cove, for a town site.

The late snow and cold snap has put farming back; but for the last three or four days, the yelp of the plowboy has been heard on most every farm.

Our up-to-date farmer, Nathan Mellott, planted potatoes some three weeks ago. He has not seen the tops yet; but no doubt the tubers are all right—if he covered them thick enough.

Simon Layton has been sawing shingles the past week for his new barn. The scream of the whistle gave us the signal last Saturday at 4 o'clock, that he was done.

Isaiah Layton, Jr., had the luck to capture a couple of large hawks that had been preying on his poultry yard, but not till they had each killed one of his best laying hens. Isaiah brags about his little gun being a sure thing every time. True, not every boy and gun would kill a hawk every time, even if the hawk was in a fox trap.

Rumor has it that wedding bells will be heard in the lower end of the Cove soon; the groom is 78—a little more or less—the bride's age your scribe can't vouch for, but she's not a spring chicken.

The sick are generally improving. Mrs. Harry Plessinger and Mrs. William H. Decker are still quite feeble.

Locals are rather scarce; of course, "Smith has visited Jones, and Jones has visited Smith," but these are matters of minor importance and not worthy the space they consume in a good paper like the News.

PERSONAL.

C. R. Davis of Saluvia spent Tuesday in town.

Mrs. Ruth Swope and son Austin spent Tuesday at McConnellsburg.

J. F. Early and son Robert of Wells Valley spent last Saturday at McConnellsburg.

We are glad to see our neighbor Albert Stoner out again after being housed for a week.

Miss Annie Culler spent Saturday and Sunday with her friend Katharine Metzler at Harrisonville.

J. L. Grissinger and son James Edgar, of New Grenada, called at the News office while in town last Saturday.

Merchant D. Edward Fore of Knobsville was an agreeable visitor at the News office one day last week.

Mrs. S. W. Kirk and sister Miss Lizzie Lodge, spent a few days last week in Harrisburg and Philadelphia.

Blair Truax dropped in to see us while in town last week. He finished his school in Ayr township on the 6th inst.

J. G. Ewing and B. A. Deshong of Harrisonville spent last Thursday in this place and called a few minutes at the News office.

Robert F. Stouteagle who has just closed a successful term of school in Franklin county is at his home in this place again.

David M. Kline, Mrs. Simon Deshong and daughter, Miss Viola, Mrs. Mary Price, and Roy M. Sipes were pleasant callers at this office Monday.

Miss Cora V. Shoemaker of Philadelphia, is spending a few weeks with her brother and sisters near town. During Miss Shoemaker's absence from home she has had quite an extensive trip abroad.

S. B. Woollet, D. Malloy, C. B. Stevens and L. H. Wible accompanied D. D. G. M. Marley and Geo. W. Fisher to Littleton last Saturday night and participated in the installation exercises at Lodge.

S. F. Keepers of Hustontown was at McConnellsburg last Saturday. He requested as a special favor that we print no more papers upside down; as he cannot stand on his head as well as he once could.

Our young friend Claude B. Cook left on Saturday for Carroll county, Illinois. It is said on good authority that he gave his young lady friends "good-bye" several times over. It was worth a fare to Illinois to lower Hobson's record by so many points.

Jefferson Mellott, of Belfast township, Fulton county, Pa., spent Wednesday night with his uncle, E. N. Palmer. He came to meet his sister, Miss Lizzie Mellott, of Clearfield, Pa., who will visit friends in Fulton county—Everett Press.

McConnellsburg Athletic Association.

An association of the above name was organized in McConnellsburg on Monday evening, April 15, 1901, with the following officers: President, Dr. A. D. Dalbey; vice president, Dwight Thompson; secretary, Wells Greathhead; treasurer, John P. Sipes. The object of the association is to encourage all kinds of outdoor sports and to this end the membership is open to both male and female residents of the Borough and vicinity.

In order to raise fund for a basis to start upon, the association will have a Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 27, 1901, at 1 o'clock in front of the Court House. Committees have been appointed who will visit all the residents of the town and neighborhood to solicit contributions to the sale.

This is a commendable work, and we bespeak the hearty cooperation of all our citizens to make it a success.